

State Board of Education Meeting 7.12.21

Western Heights



OKLAHOMA
Education

2021 Timeline

March 25

- Complaints & concerns identified (financial, governance, academics, students, community)
- District required to appear at April 9 meeting
- State Board may take action on accreditation status on April 9

April 9

- District refuses to appear. Questions State authority, “secret meeting” and “selective prosecution”
- OSDE presents on district’s performance, findings and disharmony in community
- District Accredited with Probation
- 90 days to correct identified noncompliance; if not corrected, State Board may withdraw accreditation

Probation – 90 days

Audit
findings

Academics
and student
outcomes

Governance

Emergency
relief \$

Personnel

Instability
and
disharmony

2021 Timeline - April

April 16 – Notice to district regarding Accredited with Probation

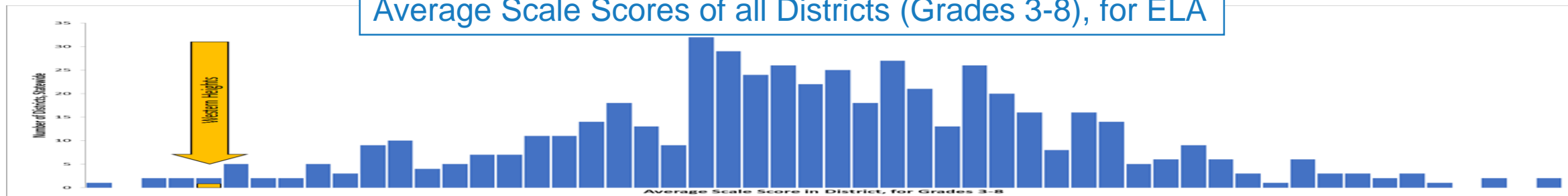
- Noncompliance and conditions identified
- Reports to State Board, beginning April 22
- “District’s future at risk...uncertainty and risk may be cured” but it is imperative District officials immediately begin to take corrective action
- Consequences if not corrected w/in 90 days;

April 22 – State Board of Education meeting

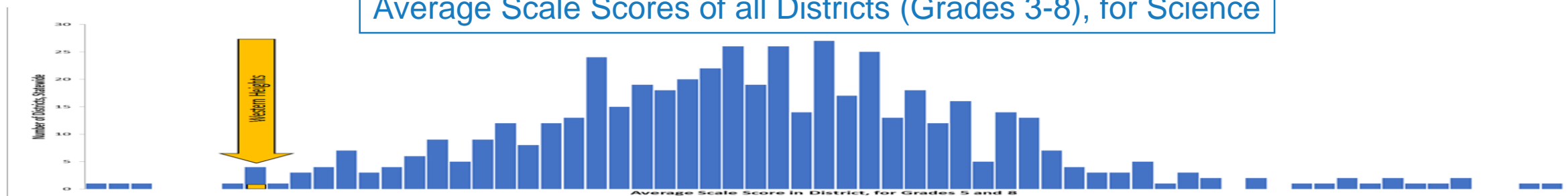
- District appears; announces the filing of a lawsuit against State Board, State Department and State Superintendent
- 90 days

Now: Widening Gap in Academic Outcomes

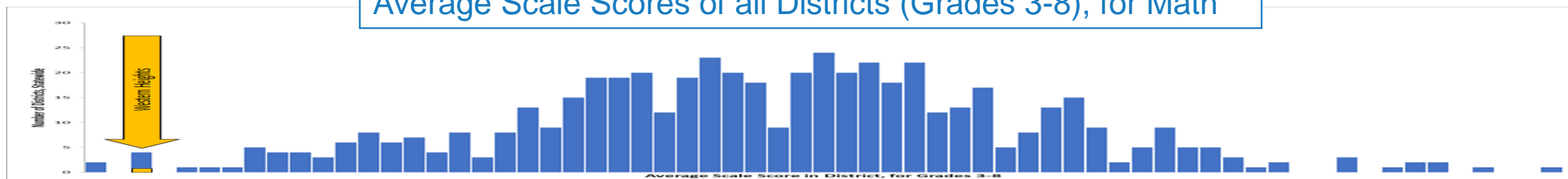
Average Scale Scores of all Districts (Grades 3-8), for ELA



Average Scale Scores of all Districts (Grades 3-8), for Science



Average Scale Scores of all Districts (Grades 3-8), for Math



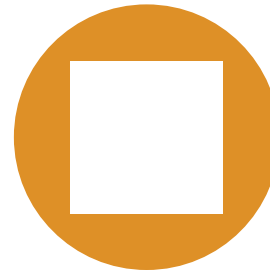
School Personnel Issues



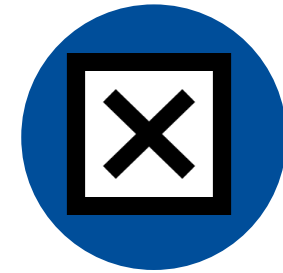
37% LOSS IN STAFF



CLAIMS OF
RETALIATION AND
HARASSMENT

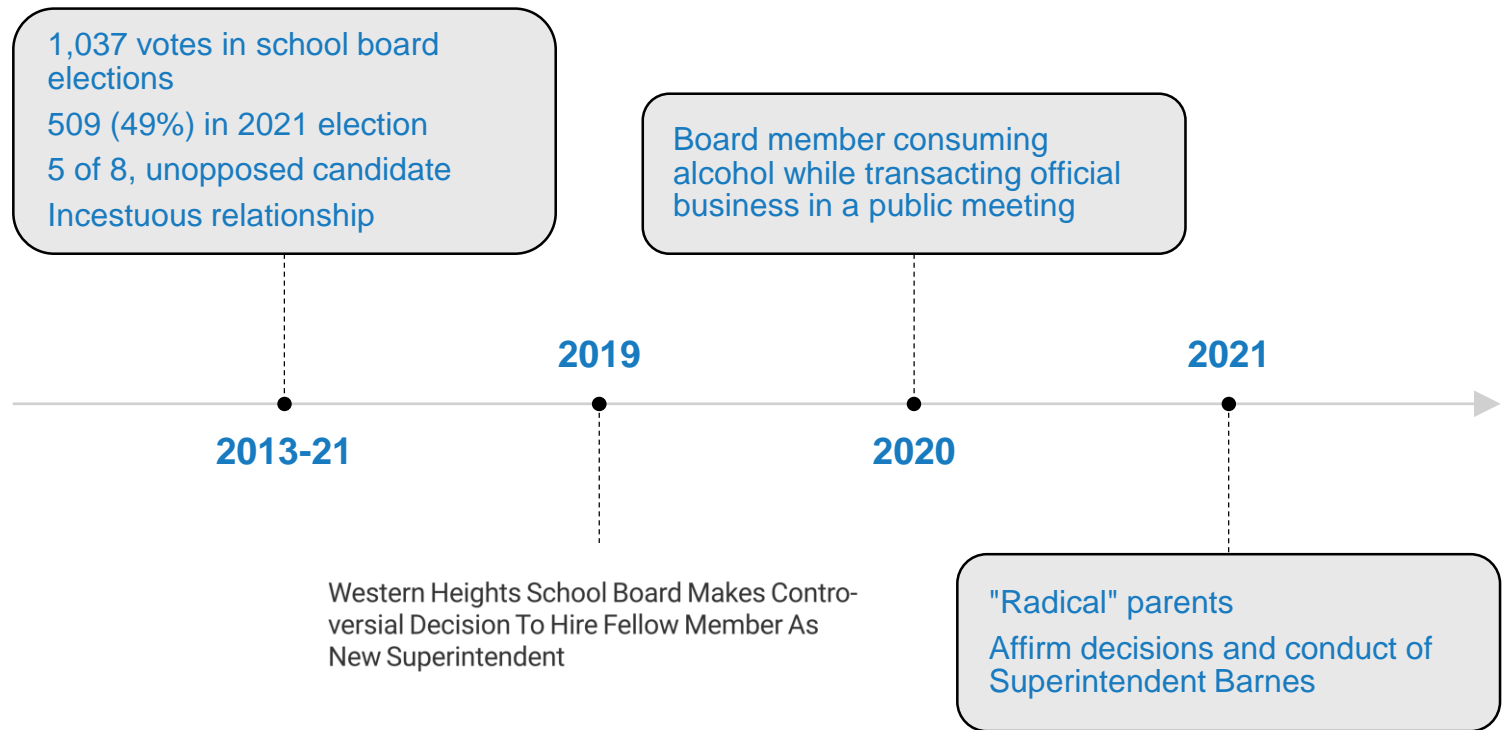


IMPASSE X 2



PRIOR HISTORY OF
RETALIATION,
HARASSMENT

Governance & Leadership



Tuesday, July 2nd 2019, 5:38 pm
By: Dana Hertneky



Finances



- Bad audits
 - Violation of state law (2019)
 - Accounting records not properly reconciled with bank accounts (2020)
 - Errors, miscoding, penalties assessed, deposits not timely made, lack of board approvals; lack of documentation to support purchases
- Leadership history demonstrates pattern
 - 2016 audit “unable to obtain sufficient appropriate evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion”
 - \$314,735 accounts not reconciled
 - **\$32,166,507** unable to obtain documentation to verify fund balances
- Federal emergency relief funds
 - \$844,000 claimed; \$17.8M allocation
 - Not planned and intended for learning loss, mental health, staffing
 - Generators. Update: power allegedly cut for failure to pay contractor
 - Disregard for safety of others

 The City of OKLAHOMA CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT	Fire Prevention Services 2300 General Pershing • 405-297-3584
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NOTICE OF VIOLATION

DATE 4/27/2021 RFS# FCOM-2021-01346
Owner / Occupant Western Heights High school
Address 8201 SW 44th OKC OK
Phone # _____ Tag/Lic _____
You are hereby notified that you have violated City Code 20-21/IFC2015
Penalty Code FC3 - Fire Code Violation
of the Ordinances of City of Oklahoma City.

Comments All fire safety systems back to full service.

You shall be compelled to Put all fire safety systems in working order With a current green inspection tag. Fire watch will be established and maintained any time the building is inhabited. Until all systems have been repaired.

By 5/4/2021 or penalty of Ordinances will be enforced.

Mayor Sunderman 4/27/2021

2021 Timeline – June 24 State Board Meeting

Suspension of educator certificate – Mannix Barnes

Special audit requested

July 12: Possible state intervention or loss of accreditation and annexation

District's Response to Probation

Lawsuit filed

No attempts to course correct and repair culture

No efforts to retain staff

Zero focus on student learning loss

Disregard safety

Extend superintendent's contract and award \$25,000 performance bonus

No action on suspension of Superintendent Barnes as required by law (70 O.S. § 6-101(L))

Unsuccessful action to seek emergency to remove suspension and prohibit State action on July 12

July 8: District's 2nd most senior administrator admittedly does not have knowledge or experience to serve as a superintendent

Willful and intentional disregard of authority, positions and responsibilities in law

State – Powers, Duties & Responsibilities

Placed and charged with the responsibility of determining the policies and directing the administration and supervision of the public school system of the state

Supervision of the public school system of Oklahoma shall be vested in the State Board of Education

Perform all duties necessary to the administration of the public school system in Oklahoma

Have authority in matters pertaining to the licensure and certification of persons for instructional, supervisory and administrative positions

Have authority to require persons having administrative control of all school districts in Oklahoma to make such regular and special reports regarding the activities of the schools

Provide for the health and safety of school children and school personnel

Adopt standards for accreditation of public schools, which include warnings, probation or nonaccredited

Withdraw accreditation if action to comply with accreditation conditions is not taken within ninety (90) days

Recommendation: Amend conditions of Accreditation with Probation

Full State Intervention
for one year, reviewed at
least every ninety (90)
days

OSDE on-site needs
assessment within ninety
(90) days

State & Community
Intervention
Performance team

Recommend action
through a District
Improvement Plan

District actions are
subject to approval of
the State Board, by and
through interim
superintendent and
OSDE

Appoint Interim
Superintendent

Ongoing corrective
action on noncompliance
and deficiencies